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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

December 1 Cotton & Sugarcane Crop Prospects Pecan Production

Cotton & Sugarcane Crop Prospects

Louisiana cotton production is forecast at 450,000 bales, up two percent from last month and up 29 percent from 2009. Cotton acreage for harvest is forecast at 250,000 acres. Yield per acre, at 864 pounds, is up 119 pounds from last year.

All cotton production is forecast at 18.3 million 480-pound bales, down one percent from last month but up 50 percent from last year's 12.2 million bales. Yield is expected to average 814 pounds per harvested acre, up 37 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 17.8 million 480-pound bales, down one percent from last month but 51 percent above 2009. Producers in Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas are expecting decreased yields from last month. American Pima production, forecast at 497,800 bales, was carried forward from last month.

Harvest was completed by mid-November in the Delta region. In Louisiana, objective yield data forecast boll weight to be the lightest in over ten years. Objective yield data in Arkansas show the bolls per acre to be the largest on record and the largest in the last five years in Mississippi.

Harvest advanced quickly in Texas under ideal weather conditions in November. Objective yield data in Texas show boll weight to be the lowest since 2005. Cotton harvest got underway in Kansas during October, while harvest progressed ahead of average in Oklahoma during the month.

Louisiana sugarcane production is estimated at 12 million net tons, unchanged from last month but down 12 percent from last year. Acreage expected for harvest (sugar and seed) is 415,000 acres. Yield is estimated at 29 net tons per acre, down 3.2 net tons from last year.

Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at 29.4 million net tons, up fractionally from the November 1 forecast but down three percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 876,200 acres for sugar and seed in 2010, unchanged from last month but up 2,300 acres from last year. In Texas, area harvested for sugar and seed is expected to total 52,000 acres. If realized, this will be a record high for the state. Conversely, producers in Hawaii are expected to harvest 17,200 acres for sugar and seed and if realized, will be a record low for the state. Expected yield is forecast at 33.5 net tons per acre, unchanged from the November 1 forecast but down 1.3 net tons from 2009.

In Louisiana, sugarcane harvest was advancing ahead of both last year and the five-year average pace. Elsewhere, sugarcane harvest remained active in the Florida Everglades under mostly ideal weather conditions.

Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield and Production by State and United States

	Area		Production		
	Harvested	Yield	Final	Ind	
State	2010 ¹	2010	2009	2010	
	1,000 Acres	Net Tons	1,000 Net Tons		
Florida	392.0	36.7	13,939	14,396	
Hawaii	17.2	72.3	1,382	1,243	
Louisiana	415.0	29.0	13,685	12,035	
Texas	52.0	33.0	1,426	1,716	
United States	876.2	33.5	30,432	29,390	

¹For sugar and seed.

All Cotton: Area Harvested, Yield and Production by State and United States

	Area Harvested		Yield		Proc	Production ¹	
State	Final 2009	Ind 2010	Final 2009	Ind 2010	Final 2009	Ind 2010	
	1,000 Acres		Р	Pounds		1,000 Bales ²	
Alabama	248.0	343.0	668	686	345.0	490.0	
Arizona	145.6	195.5	1,473	1,485	446.9	605.0	
Arkansas	500.0	540.0	818	1,067	852.0	1,200.0	
California	186.0	307.0	1,551	1,298	601.0	830.0	
Florida	78.0	89.0	723	782	117.5	145.0	
Georgia	990.0	1,325.0	902	779	1,860.0	2,150.0	
Kansas	34.0	48.0	748	780	53.0	78.0	
Louisiana	225.0	250.0	745	864	349.0	450.0	
Mississippi	290.0	420.0	687	971	415.0	850.0	
Missouri	260.0	313.0	927	1,073	502.0	700.0	
New Mexico	32.3	46.0	1,129	1,052	76.0	100.8	
North Carolina	370.0	545.0	990	854	763.0	970.0	
Oklahoma	195.0	265.0	785	788	319.0	435.0	
South Carolina	114.0	200.0	872	876	207.0	365.0	
Tennessee	280.0	387.0	843	862	492.0	695.0	
Texas	3,517.8	5,417.5	635	717	4,651.0	8,087.0	
Virginia	63.0	82.0	1,052	685	138.1	117.0	
U.S. All	7,528.7	10,773.0	777	814	12,187.5	18,267.8	

¹Production ginned and to be ginned.

²480-lb. net weight bale.

All Pecan Production							
	Util						
	Final	Final	Ind				
State	2008	2009	2010				
	1,000 Pounds						
Alabama	8,000	14,000	7,000				
Arizona	17,500	20,000	19,000				
Arkansas ¹	1,500	2,500	1,000				
California ¹	3,750	3,920	4,000				
Florida ¹	1,700	3,100	1,500				
Georgia	70,000	90,000	65,000				
Kansas ¹	1,900	1,000	2,300				
Louisiana	5,000	9,000	8,000				
Mississippi ¹	1,500	3,000	1,500				
Missouri1	1,130	1,810	800				
New Mexico	43,000	68,000	56,000				
North	700	2/	2/				
Oklahoma	5,000	13,500	20,000				
South	3,400	2,000	2,200				
Texas	30,000	60,000	70,000				
United	194,080	291,830	258,300				

¹Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

United States Pecan Production

Louisiana's pecan production is forecast at 8.0 million pounds compared to 9.0 million pounds last year.

Production is forecast at 258 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), five percent below the previous forecast and 11 percent below the 2009 production. When compared with last year, native production is forecast to be down in all states except Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Although this is a down year in the alternate bearing pattern, conditions have been favorable in these States. Improved varieties are forecast below last year's production in all states except California, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Texas. Nationally, improved varieties are expected to produce 209 million pounds or 81 percent of the total, while native and seedling varieties, at 49.5 million pounds, make up the remaining 19 percent of production.

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²Estimates discontinued in 2009.